

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A reproduction system comprising:

a storing unit for storing a plurality of pieces of information that can be reproduced;

a reproducing unit for reproducing a piece of information designated from the plurality of pieces of information stored in the storing unit;

a speech recognizing unit for inputting a speech and for recognizing and decomposing the inputted speech into words; and

a control unit for designating a search word from the recognized words sent by the speech recognizing unit, retrieving a piece of information that corresponds to the search word from the stored pieces of information, and controlling the reproducing unit for reproducing the retrieved piece of information,

wherein, when the control unit retrieves a given group of pieces of information that corresponds to the search word, wherein the given group of pieces of information is a subset of the plurality of pieces of information, the control unit designates a given one from the given group of pieces of information to instantaneously control the reproducing unit for reproducing the given one of the given group.

2. The reproduction system according to Claim 1,

wherein the speech recognition unit accepts a subsequent speech after the reproducing unit starts reproducing the given one, and

wherein the control unit retrieves a certain subgroup of pieces of information based on the inputted subsequent speech, wherein the certain subgroup of pieces of information is a subset of the given group, designates a certain one of the certain subgroup, and controls the reproduction unit for stopping reproducing the given one and then instantaneously starting reproducing the certain one instead of the given one.

3. The reproduction system according to Claim 1,

wherein, when the control unit designates the given one from the given group of pieces of information, the given one is designated based on a degree of matching the search word,

wherein the degree of matching the search word is evaluated with a more meticulous criterion than a criterion with which the given group are retrieved so that at least the given one can be designated from the given group.

4. The reproduction system according to Claim 1,

wherein, when the control unit designates the given one from the given group of pieces of information, the given one is randomly designated from the given group.

5. The reproduction system according to Claim 1,

wherein, when the control unit designates the given one from the given group of pieces of information, the given one is designated from the given group based on a frequency the given one was reproduced.

6. The reproduction system according to Claim 1,  
wherein the storing unit additionally stores a date and  
an hour when each of the plurality of pieces of information is  
stored, and

wherein, when the control unit designates the given one  
from the given group of pieces of information, the given one is  
designated from the given group based on the stored dates and  
hours.

7. The reproduction system according to Claim 1,  
wherein the storing unit additionally stores sale dates  
of the plurality of pieces of information, and

wherein, when the control unit designates the given one  
of the given group of pieces of information, the given one is  
designated from the given group based on the stored sale dates.

8. The reproduction system according to Claim 1,  
wherein, when one of the recognized words indicates an  
operational command for operating the reproduction system, the  
control unit executes the operational command, and

wherein, when all the recognized words do not indicate  
the operational command, the control unit recognizes all the  
recognized words as candidates from which the search word is  
designated.

9. The reproduction system according to Claim 8,

wherein the operational command includes a listing command for listing up a list for reproducing and a reproducing command for reproducing based on the list,

wherein, when the indicated operational command is the listing command and a piece of information is being reproduced, the control unit registers in the list the piece of information that is being reproduced, and

wherein, when the indicated operational command is the reproducing command, the control unit reproduces a piece of information in the list based on the list.

10. The reproduction system according to Claim 1,

wherein, when the speech recognizing unit has a plurality of candidates for one of the recognized words, the speech recognizing unit designates a given group of candidates from the plurality of candidates, wherein the given group of candidates is a subset of the plurality of candidates,

wherein the control unit designates a plurality of search word candidates from the given group of candidates received from the speech recognition unit, and

wherein the control unit retrieves a certain group of pieces of information that corresponds to at least one of the plurality of search word candidates from the stored pieces of information.

11. The reproduction system according to Claim 1, further comprising:

a combination information storing unit for storing a plurality of pieces of combination information relating to combination among words,

wherein, when combination among the recognized words is not included in the combination information storing unit, the speech recognizing unit executes one of never sending the recognized words to the control unit and sending the recognized words along with information indicating that a degree of likelihood of the recognized words to the inputted speech is low.

12. The reproduction system according to Claim 1, wherein each of the plurality of pieces of information stored in the storing unit includes information of a musical composition.

13. The reproduction system according to Claim 1, wherein the reproduction system is provided in a vehicle.

14. A computer program product that includes a computer usable medium and is used in a reproduction system that includes:

a storing unit for storing a plurality of pieces of information that can be reproduced;

a reproducing unit for reproducing a piece of

information designated from the plurality of pieces of information stored in the storing unit; and

a speech inputting unit for inputting a speech,

the computer program product comprising at least one of instruction groups:

a first instruction group for recognizing and decomposing the inputted speech into words; and

a second instruction group for designating a search word from the recognized words, retrieving a piece of information that corresponds to the search word from the stored pieces of information, and controlling the reproducing unit for reproducing the retrieved piece of information,

wherein, when a given group of pieces of information that corresponds to the search word is retrieved, wherein the given group of pieces of information is a subset of the plurality of pieces of information, a given one from the given group of pieces of information is designated and the reproducing unit is instantaneously controlled for reproducing the given one of the given group.

15. A reproducing method used in a reproduction system that includes:

a storing unit for storing a plurality of pieces of information that can be reproduced;

a reproducing unit for reproducing a piece of information designated from the plurality of pieces of information stored in the storing unit; and

a speech inputting unit for inputting a speech,  
the reproducing method comprising:  
recognizing and decomposing the inputted speech into  
words;

designating a search word from the recognized words;  
retrieving a piece of information that corresponds to  
the search word from the stored pieces of information; and  
controlling the reproducing unit for reproducing the  
retrieved piece of information,

wherein, when a given group of pieces of information  
that corresponds to the search word is retrieved, wherein the  
given group of pieces of information is a subset of the  
plurality of pieces of information, a given one from the given  
group of pieces of information is designated and the reproducing  
unit is instantaneously controlled for reproducing the given one  
of the given group.

16. A reproduction system comprising:

a storing unit for storing a plurality of pieces of  
information that can be reproduced;

a reproducing unit for reproducing a piece of  
information designated from the plurality of pieces of  
information stored in the storing unit;

a speech recognizing unit for inputting a speech and for  
recognizing and decomposing the inputted speech into words;

a control unit for designating a search word from the  
recognized words sent by the speech recognizing unit, retrieving

a piece of information that corresponds to the search word from the stored pieces of information, and controlling the reproducing unit for reproducing the retrieved piece of information; and

a combination information storing unit for storing a plurality of pieces of combination information relating to combination among words,

wherein, when combination among the recognized words is not included in the combination information storing unit, the speech recognizing unit executes one of never sending the recognized words to the control unit and sending the recognized words along with information indicating that a degree of likelihood of the recognized words to the inputted speech is low.

17. The reproduction system according to Claim 15, wherein the reproduction system is provided in a vehicle.

18. A computer program product that includes a computer usable medium and is used in a reproduction system that includes:

a storing unit for storing a plurality of pieces of information that can be reproduced;

a combination information storing unit for storing a plurality of pieces of combination information relating to combination of words;



a reproducing unit for reproducing a piece of information designated from the plurality of pieces of information stored in the storing unit; and

a speech inputting unit for inputting a speech,

the computer program product comprising at least one of instruction groups:

a first instruction group for recognizing and decomposing the inputted speech into words, and determining whether combination among the recognized words is included in the combination information storing unit,

wherein, when the combination among the recognized words is included in the combination information storing unit, the recognized words are recognized as final recognized words,

wherein, when the combination among the recognized words is not included in the combination information storing unit, the recognized words are dealt with by one of two procedures, wherein in a first procedure the recognized words become tentative recognized words having information indicating that a degree of likelihood of the recognized words to the inputted speech is low, wherein in a second procedure the recognized words do not become the final recognized words; and

a second instruction group for designating, when the final recognized words are present, a search word from the final recognized words, retrieving a piece of information that corresponds to the search word from the stored pieces of information, and controlling the reproducing unit for reproducing the retrieved piece of information.

19. A reproducing method used in a reproduction system that includes:

a storing unit for storing a plurality of pieces of information that can be reproduced;

a combination information storing unit for storing a plurality of pieces of combination information relating to combination among words;

a reproducing unit for reproducing a piece of information designated from the plurality of pieces of information stored in the storing unit; and

a speech inputting unit for inputting a speech,

the reproducing method comprising steps of:

recognizing and decomposing the inputted speech into words;

determining whether combination among the recognized words is included in the combination information storing unit,

wherein, when the combination among the recognized words is included in the combination information storing unit, the recognized words are recognized as final recognized words,

wherein, when the combination among the recognized words is not included in the combination information storing unit, the recognized words are dealt with by one of two procedures, wherein in a first procedure the recognized words become tentative recognized words having information indicating that a degree of likelihood of the recognized words to the inputted speech is low, wherein in a second procedure the recognized

words do not become the final recognized words;

designating, when the final recognized words are present, a search word from the final recognized words;

retrieving a piece of information that corresponds to the search word from the stored pieces of information; and

controlling the reproducing unit for reproducing the retrieved piece of information.